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Programme of activities of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People

Programme of activities of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People

Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum

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Summary of information

A. International standards, policy directives and internal guidelines

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

1. The adoption of a United Nations declaration on the rights of indigenous people is a priority objective of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People. The draft declaration, as adopted by the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, together with relevant studies, the general recommendations of the human rights treaty bodies, the conclusions of expert seminars on indigenous issues and the declarations and programmes of action adopted by high-level conferences constitute a body of internationally recognized commentary, conclusions and recommendations that have found their place as a basis of policy-making both internationally and nationally.

2. Since the launch of the International Decade in 1995, the Human Rights Committee, the Committee on the Rights of the Child, the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights have all addressed indigenous issues, either through specific country commentaries or general recommendations. Two expert seminars have been held under the Decade programme, one on practical experiences regarding indigenous land rights and claims (Whitehorse, 1996) and the second on institutions of research and higher education and indigenous people (San José, 1999), both of which set out a series of proposals and recommendations for the international community. Mention may also be made of the consultations on the draft principles and guidelines for the protection of the heritage of indigenous people prepared by the Special Rapporteur of the Subcommission, Erica-Irene Daes, due to take place from 28 February to 1 March 2000. The seminar will help, *inter alia*, to clarify concepts, principles and practical action that might contribute to the protection of the intellectual and cultural property of indigenous peoples. The Subcommission, in its resolution 1999/19 of 26 August 1999, proposed that the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, as the coordinator for the Decade, organize a workshop on indigenous peoples, private sector natural resources, energy and mining companies and human rights, which may consider existing and future codes of conduct for implementing projects in indigenous communities.

International Labour Organization

3. The International Labour Organization (ILO) is responsible for the only two international instruments relating exclusively to indigenous and tribal peoples: the Indigenous and Tribal Populations Convention, 1957 (No. 107); and the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169), which revises Convention No. 107, which is now closed for ratification, but remains valid for those countries that have ratified it but have not ratified Convention No. 169 (20 in total). There are at present 13 ratifications for Convention No. 169: Bolivia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Denmark, Ecuador, Fiji, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Paraguay and Peru. A number of other States are considering ratification (Brazil, Finland, New Zealand, Philippines and Sweden, among others) and the influence of Convention No. 169 in terms of policy development continues (see the draft inter-American instrument on indigenous peoples). It may be noted that, of the 13 ratifications of Convention No. 169, 7 were added in the five years from June 1990 (date of entry into force of the Convention) to the end of 1994, and 6 in the second five years, coinciding with the first half of the Decade. The Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, the principal ILO body responsible for monitoring the implementation of international labour standards, examines the application of Conventions No. 107 and No. 169 on a regular basis.

World Health Organization/Pan American Health Organization

4. The constitution of the World Health Organization (WHO) recognizes the right to health as a fundamental human right and focuses on vulnerable countries and population groups as an integral part of its activities. In May 1998, a resolution on the health of indigenous peoples was passed at the fifty-first session of the Executive Board of WHO, requiring the organization, as a contribution to the Decade, to increase its attention to the health needs of indigenous populations in a comprehensive and systematic way. In the region of the Americas, where the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) has been active on indigenous health issues, the organization adopted the Health of Indigenous Peoples Initiative in 1993, the principles of which were reaffirmed in June 1997. The principles, which include a recognition of the need for a holistic approach to health, the right of self-determination, the importance of systematic participation, respect for indigenous cultures and reciprocity in relations, served as the basis of a plan of action for the region. The Director-General of WHO is due to report to the Executive Board on the outcome of a consultation with

indigenous peoples, scheduled to take place in November 1999, and an overall strategy and programme of work for the Decade.

World Intellectual Property Organization

5. The mandate of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) is the promotion of the protection of intellectual property throughout the world through cooperation among States, in collaboration, where appropriate, with any other international organization (article 3 (i), 1967 Convention establishing the World Intellectual Property Organization).[1]

6. Beginning during the biennium 1998-1999, several WIPO programmes and activities included indigenous peoples among their intended beneficiaries. More particularly, the programmes and activities of WIPO's Global Intellectual Property Issues Division (the Global Issues Division) and the WIPO Academy are of particular relevance. The programme of work of the Global Issues Division for the biennium 1998-1999 includes among its objectives, the identification and exploration of intellectual property needs and expectations of new beneficiaries, including the holders of indigenous knowledge and innovations, in order to promote the contribution of the intellectual property system to their social, cultural and economic development, the study of the role of intellectual property in the documentation, conservation and dissemination of expressions of folklore and the development of means for the sustainable use and beneficial commercialization of expressions of folklore using the existing intellectual property system.

World Bank

7. The World Bank's policy towards indigenous peoples dates back to 1982 and was designed initially to consider the needs of relatively isolated and unacculturated tribal groups affected by development projects. It focused mainly on the protection of land rights and the provision of health services, particularly in relation to forest-dwelling indigenous peoples in lowland South America. In 1991, the World Bank issued a revised policy, which extended the definition of indigenous peoples to include a much wider array of peoples who maintain social and cultural identities distinct from those of the national societies where they live, have close attachments to their ancestral lands and are often susceptible to being disadvantaged in the development process. This policy is currently applicable to all World Bank-financed projects identified as affecting indigenous peoples. While maintaining the protective measures of the earlier policy, the new policy focuses particular attention on the rights of indigenous peoples to participate in and benefit from development projects. Special procedures are outlined in the policy for incorporating the concerns of indigenous peoples into Bank-financed projects through the design of indigenous peoples development plans. In 1998, the World Bank initiated a process for revising its current policy in 1998, including consultations on the draft policy both within and outside of the World Bank.

United Nations Development Programme

8. Within the framework of the policy of sustainable human development adopted by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), issues related to indigenous people have gained considerable attention. Supporting and strengthening indigenous communities and organizations is a task that cuts through UNDP's main thematic areas — poverty eradication, employment and sustainable livelihoods, gender equity, good governance and the sustainable management of the environment. There is wide recognition within UNDP of the significance of indigenous people's holistic knowledge of the environment and their effective management of resources. Indigenous people, however, are often the poorest of the poor in most of the approximately 70 countries which they inhabit and the improvement of their plight is critical to reduce poverty and to promote environmental conservation for future generations. UNDP has an explicit mandate to reach out to indigenous people and to ensure their participation in UNDP-supported activities that may affect their livelihoods.

9. Over the course of 1999, UNDP has been taking stock of its work and its engagement with indigenous peoples and mapping out how best to move forward strategically over the next four years of the Decade and beyond. These exercises have consisted of internal and external reviews of UNDP's activities that have involved indigenous communities and their respective organizations since the inauguration of the International Year of Indigenous Peoples in 1993, including a study of past and current projects within UNDP's multiple programmes that either directly or indirectly involve indigenous peoples. It highlights instructive practices and programmatic approaches for working more effectively with indigenous peoples. Secondly, an external review was undertaken of existing policies and/or current policy formulation processes in intergovernmental organizations, including various United Nations agencies and bilateral development cooperation agencies. The purpose of the comparative study was to assist and orient the UNDP policy formulation process.

10. In this context, a consultative meeting entitled, "Indigenous Peoples and UNDP: Strengthening Our Partnership", was held in Geneva, from 22 to 24 July, between representatives from indigenous peoples' organizations and from UNDP headquarters and regional and country programme offices. The overall objective of this dialogue was to renew and deepen UNDP's partnership and engagement with indigenous peoples, their organizations and their communities. The working group identified three priorities to be addressed by UNDP. The first priority for ensuring a strengthened partnership with indigenous peoples is the development of a UNDP policy and operational guidelines on cooperation with indigenous peoples. The policy should build on the existing policy framework, that is, the draft declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples. As the next priority, UNDP should promote indigenous participation in decision-making processes and in the development process, facilitate indigenous participation in international forums and take an active stand on the establishment of the permanent forum for indigenous peoples within the United Nations system and the adoption of the draft declaration. As the third priority, UNDP is requested to explore opportunities for direct support and interaction with indigenous communities and organizations. This should be done by improving the communication and flow of information between UNDP and indigenous peoples and ensuring full indigenous participation in the design, implementation and monitoring of projects and programmes. UNDP should review existing modalities for direct assistance and should increase the financial and technical assistance to indigenous peoples through new modes of direct support.

United Nations Population Fund

11. The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) draws its policy guidelines from the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, held in Cairo in 1994, which called on Governments to address, in consultation with indigenous peoples and in collaboration with relevant non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and intergovernmental organizations, the specific needs of indigenous populations in all aspects of population and development, including their needs in reproductive health care. The recently approved "Key actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development", the result of the five-year review of the Conference, reaffirms that Governments should promote and respect the rights of indigenous people, with particular regard to their cultures, resources, belief systems, land rights and languages, and should expand their access to youth and adult education learning policies and programmes as well as reproductive health-care services. At the programme level, although a specific set of guidelines has not been developed for indigenous peoples, UNFPA has revised existing guidelines to ensure a rights-based approach into its three programme areas: reproductive health, population and development strategies and advocacy.

Other United Nations organizations[2]

12. The World Food Programme (WFP), while indicating that it undertook extensive work with indigenous peoples, said it had no policy directives on indigenous peoples. Likewise, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) stated that they had no special policy directives or internal guidelines governing the Organization's work with indigenous peoples, but that they have produced technical notes and methodologies on the socio-cultural aspects of population, including indigenous peoples, which are applied through an inter-agency system of technical assistance.

13. International policy-making in the environmental area is of particular concern to indigenous peoples since they are highly dependent on the natural environment for their material and spiritual needs. Article 8 (j) of the Convention on Biological Diversity, which entered into force in 1993, explicitly refers to indigenous peoples, and several of the subsidiary bodies established to assist with implementation of the Convention are relevant to indigenous peoples, including those dealing with scientific, technical and technological advice, bio-safety and traditional knowledge.[3]

14. In reviewing the emerging policy framework relating to indigenous peoples, mention can also be made of regional instruments such as the draft declaration on indigenous peoples being prepared by the Organization of American States (OAS) and United Nations sponsored activities in countries with significant indigenous populations, such as the United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala (MINUGUA).

15. There is a range of relevant international standards, policy guidelines and other high-level recommendations determining, to a greater or lesser extent, intergovernmental programmes and projects affecting indigenous peoples. While some of these instruments and policy guidelines pre-date the Decade, they are nonetheless relevant in determining the context in which current programmes within the agencies are being developed. For example, since 1996, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) has adopted a rights-based approach to children, guided by the

Convention on the Rights of the Child, whose article 30 recognizes the right of indigenous children to enjoy their own culture and practise their own religion or language.

B. Programmes, projects and other activities

16. A number of organizations of the United Nations system are undertaking a wide range of activities aimed at improving the well-being of indigenous peoples, in line with the goal of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People. This attests to growing interest in and commitment to programmes specifically targeting indigenous communities, including through programmes of technical assistance.

The Office of United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

17. The inter-agency consultations on indigenous peoples which are organized each year by the Office of the High Commissioner and ILO, increasingly in close cooperation with other active United Nations organizations, have been instrumental in building a spirit of cooperation among the individuals, focal points, units or departments dealing either entirely or partially with indigenous issues. A most important result of these regular meetings has been to ensure that, on the whole, projects and programmes do not take place in isolation or in ignorance of major developments relating to indigenous peoples taking place elsewhere.

18. The efforts by the Office of the High Commissioner to stimulate inter-agency cooperation on indigenous issues has been assisted by the decision taken by the Working Group on Indigenous Populations to highlight a specific theme each year. Hence, in 1996, the Working Group focused on health, in 1997 on environment, in 1998 on education and in 1999 on land. The relevant United Nations agencies have seized the opportunity offered by the presence at the sessions of well over 500 indigenous people to hold workshops, consultations and briefings. As a consequence of these contacts, WIPO has built up its own network of indigenous organizations concerned with intellectual property issues, WHO is now in permanent contact with an indigenous committee on health, and UNESCO has agreed to hold its first comprehensive consultation on the educational and cultural aspects of the Decade at its headquarters in November 1999. Through the Voluntary Fund on Indigenous Populations, which assists with the travel and living costs of over 60 indigenous representatives to attend key human rights meetings each year, it has been possible for the Office of the High Commissioner to cooperate with a number of organizations of the United Nations system, including the World Bank, WIPO and UNDP, and to assist in full participation of indigenous people in their consultations. As a contribution to informing indigenous peoples about the United Nations system, the Office has drafted a guide to the United Nations system for indigenous people, which is being finalized for publication.

19. As part of its initiatives for the Decade, the Office of the High Commissioner has established the Indigenous Fellowship Programme to assist indigenous people in gaining experience in the field of international human rights and the United Nations system. Under the programme, indigenous persons chosen by their organizations are able to spend six months based in the Office of the High Commissioner, where they follow an intensive training course in international human rights law and mechanisms, participate in the daily activities of the Office, spend one month within an NGO, and receive extended briefings at several United Nations agencies, including WHO, ILO, WIPO and UNESCO. To date 13 indigenous fellows have been accepted on the programme from Australia, Brazil, Canada, India, Indonesia, Japan, Mali, New Zealand, Panama, Russia, Sweden and the United States of America.

20. The Office of the High Commissioner has organized two international seminars under the Decade programme. The seminars provide an opportunity for representatives of United Nations organizations and agencies and experts from Governments and indigenous organizations to discuss critical issues, share experiences and make recommendations for future action. The first of these seminars addressed the question of land rights and claims and was held in Whitehorse, Canada. In June 1999, the Office of the High Commissioner organized an international workshop on higher education and research institutions and indigenous peoples in San José, Costa Rica. In order to improve the flow of information and knowledge about United Nations activities relating to indigenous peoples, the Office has also launched an indigenous media initiative. In January 1998, a first workshop was held in Madrid and a second workshop will be held in Atlanta, United States of America in May 2000.

International Labour Organization

21. Since the beginning of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People, ILO has initiated a number of technical cooperation projects and programmes to increase awareness of the situation of indigenous and tribal peoples and to promote an improvement of their living and working conditions. All ILO technical assistance programmes are

implemented within the framework of relevant ILO standards, in particular Convention No. 169. In Central America (Costa Rica, El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala, Belize, Nicaragua and Panama), a three-year project is under way, which focuses on the legal empowerment of indigenous peoples in Central America. The project's regional counterpart is the Central American Indigenous Council and its aim is to enable indigenous communities both to protect and promote their rights through better use of legislative and legal processes and to accomplish more effective inclusion of indigenous peoples in the administration of justice, public policy development and the democratic process. As one of the components of the UNDP-sponsored national indigenous programme, ILO also provides training to indigenous legal activists on legislation relating to land and the use of resources in the lowlands of Bolivia. In Guatemala, ILO assistance continues with training for field staff on the practical implications of Convention No. 169. This has taken place at the request of the Ombudsman's office of Guatemala and is conducted within the context of the Guatemalan Peace Plan, entitled Identity and Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Convention No. 169 was ratified by Guatemala in June 1996, also within the context of the Peace Plan.

22. The Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA)-financed project on indigenous and tribal peoples is a technical cooperation project aimed at promoting ILO policy on indigenous and tribal peoples. It began operations in 1996 and will continue until 2000, subject to renewal. The project is conceptualized within the framework of the International Decade and is managed by two indigenous and tribal persons. The interregional focus of the project places its main emphasis on Asia and Southern Africa, whereas project work in South and Central America is complementary to the activities of the ILO offices in the region.

23. Inspired by Convention No. 169, ILO launched the Interregional Programme to Support Self-reliance of Indigenous and Tribal Communities through Cooperatives and other Self-help Organizations (INDISCO) aimed at strengthening the capacities of indigenous and tribal peoples, helping them to design and implement their own development plans and initiatives and ensuring that their traditional values and culture are safeguarded. The programme has 20 projects in 10 countries in Asia, Africa and Central America funded by a group of donors including DANIDA, the Government of the Netherlands, the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), the Arab Gulf Programme for the United Nations Development Organizations (AGFUND), UNDP, WFP and Rabobank. Major programme components are: strengthening of basic livelihoods, ancestral domain management, advancement of the status of indigenous women, environment and natural resource management (through incorporation of indigenous knowledge), capacity-building through training of indigenous extension workers at community level, preservation of indigenous culture and strengthening of local organizations. In the last five years, INDISCO projects have trained more than 15,000 indigenous and tribal people who, in return, helped their communities to revitalize traditional jobs.

World Health Organization

24. The focus of WHO on the health needs of indigenous peoples has increased since the beginning of the United Nations Decade in 1994. A number of departments and clusters have been involved in past and current activities of the organization related to the health of indigenous people. The Substance Abuse Department has emphasized the strong involvement of indigenous peoples in its work since 1992. In the first phase of its work, case studies on substance use and health were commissioned from ten indigenous communities. During the second phase, indigenous consultants were seconded to work in the Substance Abuse Department. An indigenous advisory group, with representatives from most WHO regions, was established, with project management and monitoring responsibilities. The Noncommunicable Diseases Cluster has gathered information on diabetes among indigenous peoples. The Tobacco Free Initiative reported that prevalence of tobacco consumption is higher among indigenous peoples. The Initiative is aimed at the development of protocols about tobacco control, including one on indigenous peoples. Several of the activities of the roll back malaria programme are focused on addressing malaria and health systems of indigenous populations, in the Mekong region and in South America as well as in other parts of the world. A meeting will take place in Lima in October 1999 on malaria and indigenous people, with the participation of Governments and indigenous representatives from nine Amazonian countries. The Traditional Medicine Team includes a focus on indigenous medicines. Guidelines for traditional health practitioners and primary health care have been produced. The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) has developed a database on AIDS and indigenous peoples. Some studies have shown a very high rate of HIV and sexually transmitted diseases among indigenous peoples. The recent guidelines produced on human rights and AIDS identify indigenous peoples as a priority population.

25. During 1998 WHO co-sponsored and participated in the organization of the third "Healing our Spirit" conference, in New Zealand, which focused on indigenous peoples and substance misuse. In 1999, the Mental Health Department produced a brochure which provides an international overview of the mental health of indigenous people.

26. Recently WHO was asked by its governing bodies to take a more active role in the health of indigenous peoples. At the fifty-first World Health Assembly, in May 1998, a resolution on the health of indigenous peoples was passed, and a report was submitted to the Executive Board of WHO in January 1999. Responsibility for following up the recommendations of the Executive Board was given to the department of "Health in Sustainable Development", which has begun its work in this area with the publication in 1999 of a report outlining the major health issues of indigenous peoples. In seeking to work more closely with indigenous peoples, WHO has established a partnership with the Committee on Indigenous Health, which was established by the indigenous caucus during the preparatory conference for the fifteenth session of the Working Group of Indigenous Populations. In partnership with the Committee, two forums on the health of indigenous peoples were organized during the 1998 and 1999 sessions of the Working Group. The aim of the forums was to clarify the respective roles of the Committee, indigenous non-governmental organizations and WHO during the Decade. In August 1999, a memorandum of understanding was signed between the Director-General of WHO and the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). The two agencies will carry out a state of the environment and health report focusing on the indigenous peoples of the Arctic.

27. An important WHO activity this year will be the organization of an international consultation on the health of indigenous peoples, which will be held in Geneva from 23 to 26 November 1999. The consultation will be attended by United Nations agencies, responsible officers in WHO regional offices, NGOs and indigenous peoples organizations. This consultation will contribute towards the development of a WHO policy and the basis for a long-term plan of action for improving the health of indigenous peoples. Health policies to be adopted by Member States will be an important output of this consultation. In preparation for the consultation a series of meetings has been organized, both within WHO itself as well as with other United Nations agencies and indigenous peoples organizations.

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

28. The four major programmes of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) (lifelong education for all; sciences in the service of development; cultural development, heritage and creativity; communication, information and informatics) are particularly relevant to indigenous peoples. In addition, the organization has two transdisciplinary projects: "Education towards a sustainable future" and "Towards a culture of peace". The action in favour of indigenous people is placed within the project "Towards a culture of peace", in a subprogramme entitled "The culture of peace in action". The organization's recent activities include: a colloquium on "Indigenous peoples and the State in Latin America", held in Ecuador in July 1997, which led to the establishment of regional UNESCO chairs for indigenous peoples research; the Linguapax programme, designed to increase awareness of and protect the linguistic heritage of the world; and a project on indigenous literature with the participation of 82 indigenous authors. UNESCO is also promoting a series of activities in Guatemala, including the first national congress on Maya education and an inventory of work on Maya linguistics. In July 1998, UNESCO also hosted an international symposium on natural sacred sites with indigenous participation. Under the communications programme, UNESCO has supported a number of radio and audio-visual productions made by and for cultural minorities. The Hamburg-based UNESCO Institute for Education is also engaged in promoting adult education in indigenous communities.

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

29. FAO has coordinated numerous projects that have either directly involved or been relevant to indigenous peoples. As an example, the project of the Woman and Population Division of the Sustainable Development Department, "Gender, biodiversity and local knowledge systems to strengthen agriculture and rural developments in Southern Africa" has been implemented in Tanzania, Zimbabwe and Mozambique. The central aim of the programme is to strengthen the capacity of institutions and organizations to understand and apply farmers' knowledge of and experience in the sustainable use of biodiversity for food and agriculture and is highly relevant to indigenous knowledge and its preservation. A project developed by the Agriculture Department has seen the development of six pilot farmer field schools in the highlands of Ecuador, which have facilitated the maintenance of indigenous farming

practices. The importance of indigenous knowledge and practices in agriculture has been recognized by the organization in several instruments, meetings and conferences. New proposals were made to strengthen the implementation of farmers' rights at the December 1996 meeting of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture. Customary local institutions for natural resource management and disaster prevention is also at the core of the Rural Institutions and Participation Service. As part of its activities, the Service assesses options and mechanisms for improved local level interaction between customary/indigenous local institutions and local government authorities and/or other non-governmental actors on these issues.

30. FAO also provides legal support to Member States upon request in relation to matters which are within the technical areas of the organization's work. These include legal issues, which are of particular importance to indigenous peoples such as customary rights of access to and use of land, water, forestry and fishing resources. Relevant indigenous issues are therefore incorporated in FAO's legal analysis and reform processes. In the Philippines, for example, the Rural Institutions and Participation Service, in collaboration with the Land Tenure Service and the Legal Office, provided assistance to the Government of the Philippines under a technical cooperation programme to support activities for indigenous groups in agrarian reform. The project allowed for the formulation of operational indigenous agrarian reform community plans and the development of measures and guidelines to improve land tenure of indigenous cultural communities in their ancestral land.

World Intellectual Property Organization

31. Under the WIPO programme of activities relating to indigenous peoples and local communities, a series of fact-finding missions is being undertaken on traditional knowledge, innovations and culture to study current approaches to, and future possibilities for, the protection of the intellectual property rights of traditional knowledge holders, including indigenous peoples. WIPO has made nine fact-finding missions namely to the South Pacific, South Asia, Southern and Eastern Africa, North America, Central and Western Africa, the Arab countries, South America, Central America and the Caribbean. While the primary informants for the missions were holders of traditional knowledge, including indigenous persons and their representatives, the range of interlocutors included a wide spectrum of stakeholders in traditional knowledge, including government officials, research institutes, NGOs, museums, community organizations and village councils. Factual accounts of all the mission activities were repatriated directly to the traditional knowledge holders and other informants in the form of interim reports. The interim reports from the fact-finding missions are available from the International Bureau of WIPO and a general report will be published in late 1999.

32. In July 1998, WIPO also organized a round table on intellectual property and indigenous peoples and will hold a round table on intellectual property and traditional knowledge on 1 and 2 November 1999 to facilitate an exchange of views among policy makers and traditional knowledge holders, including indigenous persons, concerning the more effective application and possible improvement of the intellectual property system to protect traditional knowledge. WIPO and UNESCO also convened four intergovernmental, regional consultations on the protection of expressions of folklore. These consultations took place as follows: for Africa, March 1999; for Asia and the Pacific, April 1999; for the Arab region, May 1999; and, for the Latin American and Caribbean region, June 1999. Each of the four consultations adopted resolutions or recommendations with proposals for future work in this field, either focused on expressions of folklore or encompassing all traditional knowledge. The recommendations are available from the International Bureau of WIPO. In cooperation with UNEP, WIPO is carrying out an on-site project document on the role of intellectual property rights in the sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of traditional knowledge, innovations and creativity and associated biological resources.

33. Based on its exploratory work during the biennium 1998-1999, WIPO intends to continue its work, *inter alia*, on traditional knowledge and expressions of folklore during the biennium 2000-2001. Several main programmes in the programme and budget for the biennium 2000-2001 contained proposed activities relating to these issues, including the main programme of the Global Issues Division. For example, the latter envisages a feasibility study on the use of intellectual property law or practice to protect traditional knowledge, innovations and creativity; the organization of round tables such as those held in 1998 and 1999; the development and dissemination of intellectual property training materials on the protection of traditional knowledge, innovations and creativity; the study of customary law and regulatory systems that apply to the protection of knowledge, innovations and creativity in local and traditional communities; the examination of alternatives for the development of standards for the protection of folklore; and a project on the documentation, conservation,

sustainable use and beneficial commercialization of folklore. The WIPO Academy will be developing a course on the intellectual property aspects of indigenous and traditional knowledge in 2000.

World Bank

34. The World Bank has indicated that since its revised policy became effective in 1991, more than 150 Bank-financed projects worldwide have been identified as affecting indigenous peoples, many of which have indigenous peoples development plans or strategies for ensuring that indigenous peoples receive culturally appropriate benefits. While in the past many of these investments were in the infrastructure and energy sectors, today an increasing number are in the fields of education, health, community development, agriculture, natural resources management and land tenure security. In November 1998, the World Bank-financed Ecuador: Indigenous Peoples and Afro-Ecuadorean Development Project was launched. This is the first project to be prepared in a partnership between the World Bank, a government ministry responsible for ethnic affairs and indigenous organizations. Other indigenous peoples development projects are being prepared in Peru, Bolivia and Argentina. Through the Global Environment Facility, special "community protected areas" are being funded combining indigenous territorial recognition with the conservation and management of biodiversity. World Bank-financed natural resources management programmes, which contain land regularization components for indigenous peoples, are also under way or in preparation in Brazil, Colombia, Guatemala, Honduras and Paraguay. The indigenous lands project of the pilot programme to protect the Brazilian rain forest is specifically designed to address issues of indigenous land demarcation and protection in the Brazilian Amazon. In East Asia and the Pacific a number of projects have been designed through the use of social assessment indigenous peoples development plans. These include the coastal wetlands protection and development project in Viet Nam, which will benefit the Khmer who have been identified in the project's indigenous peoples development plan as the most disadvantaged group in the project area. The project has been designed so that the Khmer will benefit from the socio-economic services under a commune action plan. An agricultural diversification project is also being designed in Viet Nam. This project safeguards the interests of ethnic minorities through land allocation based on current land use and participatory land use planning; the voluntary participation of ethnic minorities in a rubber plantation programme based upon applications from farmers who have been residing in communes for a minimum of three years; the recruitment of ethnic minority extension staff; and training of government officials in participatory planning methodologies and cultural sensitivity. In the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the district upland development and conservation project will benefit farmers in three pilot villages, all classified as below the poverty level. The project supports the development of sustainable upland livelihood programmes, taking specific environmental and ethnic characteristics into consideration. Within the Mindanao rural development programme in the Philippines, a social assessment has led to the inclusion of a community development fund and a development plan for indigenous peoples in the project.

35. The World Bank also undertakes a growing amount of research and sector work, which applies to indigenous peoples and other ethnic and minority groups. Recent research and sector work includes: (a) national profiles of indigenous peoples in Bolivia, China, Guatemala, Honduras, Indonesia, Mexico, Viet Nam, and Peru; (b) analyses of the legal and institutional frameworks relating to indigenous peoples and other ethnic minorities in Bangladesh, China, India, Pakistan and the Philippines; (c) forestry sector reviews that included analyses of the situation of indigenous peoples in Mexico, Papua New Guinea and the Russian Federation; (d) poverty assessments that analysed the social and economic situation of indigenous peoples in Panama and Peru; and (e) studies of the education of indigenous peoples in Bolivia, Guatemala, Mexico and Peru.

United Nations Development Programme

36. UNDP has developed a project entitled "Support to the Preservation of Indigenous Peoples' Knowledge and the Protection of Indigenous Intellectual Property" to identify the strategies and means of promoting and protecting indigenous knowledge, intellectual and cultural property and customary practices. At the global level, UNDP supports the Indigenous Knowledge Programme, an initiative of the Indigenous People's Biodiversity Network. Its inception was based on three aforementioned regional consultations with indigenous people's organizations. The Programme is an operational framework of global scale for the conservation and promotion of indigenous knowledge. It has a modular structure with three main objectives: (a) the active participation by indigenous peoples' organizations in international processes and conferences of concern to indigenous people, such as the annual Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity; (b) the promotion and conservation of indigenous knowledge through targeted capacity-building and direct support for

research projects formulated and implemented by indigenous peoples' organizations (e.g. documentation of customary laws and traditional resource rights); and (c) direct grants for indigenous peoples' self-help initiatives aimed at poverty reduction, human resource development and organization-building at the community level.

United Nations Population Fund

37. UNFPA has developed a two-pronged strategy in order to assist indigenous peoples. As part of its focus on reproductive rights of the most vulnerable population groups, UNFPA finances and executes projects in poor areas, both rural and urban, with the aim of expanding the community's access to basic social services, including education and reproductive health. UNFPA also implements a series of national and regional projects targeted specifically towards indigenous peoples, in particular in Latin America and the Caribbean. In countries such as Bolivia, Ecuador, Panama and Peru, projects focus on improving access of indigenous peoples to primary health-care clinics and the quality of care received at these clinics, including reproductive health. These projects include training and counselling components for health workers, as well as the provision of reproductive health equipment and contraceptives. In addition, several projects promote literacy programmes and information, education and communication campaigns directed towards both indigenous and non-indigenous communities, including community leaders, policy makers, social and health workers and the media. Regional activities included the reproductive health seminar for indigenous women held in Pucallpa, Peru, in June of 1998, as well as support for a series of socio-demographic studies in the Andean region.

World Food Programme

38. WFP has stated that it is working extensively with indigenous communities in Latin America since they represent some of the poorest sections of the Programme's target group and tend to be concentrated on small holdings with degraded productive bases. In these countries, WFP has adopted a special strategy to help indigenous peoples, which takes into account traditional working methods, full participation in designing and implementing of projects and the special relationship of indigenous peoples to their environment. In India, WFP manages a tribal development through forestry programme to help to overcome food insecurity in tribal communities by providing an income transfer to poor forestry workers through the provision of food rations and the generation of a village resource development fund.

Other United Nations organizations

39. The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) has communicated on previous occasions with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights indicating that the Fund's target groups are the poorest of the world's people, including small farmers, the rural landless, nomadic pastoralists, artisanal fisherfolk, indigenous people and poor rural women. The United Nations Volunteers (UNV) administration has provided information about a number of projects supporting indigenous peoples. In Guatemala it has been providing volunteers, including indigenous professionals, to assist in the peace process and verification mission. In Peru, UNV specialists are working on special projects with native communities in the Amazon region. In presentations to the inter-agency consultations and the Working Group on Indigenous Populations, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees has indicated that, under the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees, it seeks to address indigenous peoples' concerns during the three typical phases of refugee displacement by examining the root causes of their displacement, their specific needs during the period of displacement and the special characteristics for a lasting solution.

C. Indigenous involvement

40. The General Assembly, in its resolutions on the International Decade, has underlined the importance of consultation and cooperation with indigenous people in planning and implementing the programmes of activities, which is reflected in the theme of the Decade "Indigenous people: partnership in action".

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

41. Within the Office of the High Commissioner, indigenous people are actively participating in numerous human rights meetings in accordance with three different procedures. Indigenous organizations may participate in the Commission on Human Rights and Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights and all other human rights meetings governed by the rules of the Economic and Social Council if they enjoy consultative status with the Council. Fifteen indigenous organizations have consultative status with the Council. Under a procedure established by the Commission on Human Rights in its resolution 1995/32, indigenous organizations wishing to take part in the sessions of the ad hoc working groups on the draft

declaration and the permanent United Nations forum on indigenous people must make a request through the Office of the High Commissioner and, following consultations with the Government or Governments concerned, the NGO Committee decides whether to approve the participation of the organization. To date, 110 organizations have been approved. Participation in the annual sessions of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations is open to all indigenous organizations without restriction, a procedure that may account in part for the very large number of indigenous people attending. In order to ensure geographical and cultural balance, the Office of the High Commissioner, when organizing expert seminars, has, in practice, invited the participation of indigenous organizations with consultative status or approved through the special procedure established by Commission on Human Rights resolution 1995/32, as well as indigenous organizations without any such special status if their expertise was considered relevant. In practice, one of the officers of the expert seminar is elected from the indigenous experts present. The treaty bodies have also received written and oral information from indigenous organizations without formal United Nations status.

42. The Office of the High Commissioner has made efforts to involve indigenous people in the planning and development of its own activities, in particular through the advisory bodies for the two voluntary funds. The Board of Trustees of the Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations is composed of five indigenous persons serving in their individual capacity, and the Board of Trustees, together with the chairperson of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations and an expert on technical cooperation, constitute the advisory group established by the Coordinator of the Decade to make recommendations on activities to be supported by the Voluntary Fund for the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People. The latter advisory group was set up in line with the recommendations made in the programme of activities for the Decade (resolution 50/157, annex, paras. 15 and 23).

43. The General Assembly has identified, as an objective of the Decade, that consideration be given to the establishment of a permanent forum for indigenous people in the United Nations system. Since this recommendation was made at the World Conference on Human Rights, two workshops have been held, one in Copenhagen, in June 1995, and the other in Santiago, in June/July 1997, and a first meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Commission was held in Geneva in February 1999. The Commission, in its resolution 1999/52, decided to re-establish the Ad Hoc Working Group with a view to completing its task and putting forward one or more proposals on the establishment of a permanent forum for consideration by the Commission. The Working Group on the permanent forum will meet in Geneva from 14 to 23 February 2000. The chairman-rapporteur of the Working Group noted that the proposed establishment of a forum, which would have a broad mandate, was widely accepted. He identified a number of aspects which he felt required further reflection. These included the proposals that the permanent forum would serve as an advisory body to the United Nations system, promote internal coordination within the United Nations on indigenous issues and act as a focal point for matters concerning indigenous peoples and that it should be chosen on the basis of equitable distribution (E/CN.4/1999/83, annex I).

44. The High Commissioner for Human Rights has established an advisory group for the International Decade composed of five indigenous persons, the chairperson-rapporteur of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations and an expert on technical cooperation. The advisory group meets two times a year and makes recommendations on priorities for funding from the Voluntary Fund. In addition to this formal mechanism for policy planning, the High Commissioner meets regularly with indigenous representatives. The Indigenous Project Team established by the High Commissioner to coordinate indigenous issues in her office is in permanent contact with some 500 indigenous organizations, meets with indigenous delegations throughout the year and undertakes numerous missions to indigenous communities to meet with representatives and communities.

Other United Nations organizations

45. WIPO works as far as possible with international organizations, NGOs and others to disseminate information to indigenous peoples on its activities, in particular those which directly concern them. WIPO attempts to involve representatives of indigenous peoples as closely as possible in the design and implementation of those activities. For example, the round table on intellectual property and indigenous peoples, held in July 1998, was planned and developed in close coordination with indigenous representatives. The programmes for the fact-finding missions conducted by WIPO on traditional knowledge, innovation and culture were developed in consultation *inter alia* with indigenous people. WIPO has been able to fund the participation of indigenous persons in certain of its activities. For example, WIPO facilitated the participation of approximately 50 indigenous persons in the round table on intellectual property and indigenous peoples, held in July

1998. Similarly, WIPO hopes to be able to fund the participation of a number of indigenous persons in the round table on intellectual property and traditional knowledge, scheduled for 1 and 2 November 1999.

46. UNFPA provided support for the participation of representatives of indigenous peoples in the development of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development. In addition, UNFPA's programme and project development is a decentralized and consultative process involving national counterparts, associations and individuals, including representatives of indigenous peoples whenever possible.

47. A number of United Nations organizations have stated that their consultations with indigenous peoples occur at the national level and through specific project development. This is the case for UNDP, ILO and WFP. The World Bank, UNDP and WHO are currently holding consultations with indigenous people at the international, regional and national levels in order to further develop policy guidelines and strategies.

D. Focal points and special units

48. In its resolution 50/157 of 21 December 1995, the General Assembly recommended that United Nations organizations and specialized agencies establish focal points for indigenous issues where appropriate (resolution 50/157, annex, para. 30). The information received from United Nations organizations confirms that, in certain cases, focal points, persons or units have been created to coordinate indigenous matters. Since 1996, ILO has a two-person team of indigenous persons financed by DANIDA. WHO recently established a focal unit for indigenous peoples with three staff working part time on indigenous issues and two consultants as well as staff attached to its Programme on Substance Abuse and includes indigenous persons in its teams. UNDP has set up a focal team under its civil society organizations and participation programme. The WIPO Global Intellectual Property Issues Division serves as the focal point on indigenous issues in the organization. At UNFPA headquarters, assistance to indigenous peoples is channelled through the NGO/civil society theme group, of the Technical and Policy Division. In addition, the division for Latin America and the Caribbean has appointed a focal point for indigenous peoples. In the field, UNFPA's regional country support teams include socio-cultural advisors who ensure that programmes are developed and implemented taking into account the perspective of indigenous peoples and other minorities. There are also focal points for indigenous peoples in several of UNFPA's offices in Latin America. Finally, FAO, through its Women and Population Division of the Sustainable Development Department, provides technical backstopping in the area of socio-cultural research in population issues, including research on the population aspects of indigenous communities.

49. At the World Bank, the working group created to revise its current policy and the cultural diversity and indigenous peoples thematic team serves as a focal point. The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) set up its Indigenous Peoples and Community Development Unit in 1994 and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) has recently appointed staff to work full-time on indigenous issues. UNESCO has an appointed focal point for indigenous issues and the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity included an indigenous person on its staff to coordinate its work with indigenous organizations until earlier this year.

50. The General Assembly, in resolution 50/157, requested the Coordinator of the Decade to establish, as a matter of urgency, an adequately staffed and resourced indigenous people's unit. In the same resolution, Governments were requested to second qualified indigenous persons to assist in the administration of the Decade. In 1996, the Government of Norway provided financial support for the recruitment of a Saami expert for three years. He concluded his work in April 1999. In 1998, the Government of France provided funds for a French expert to develop educational and cultural aspects of the Decade, and in January 1999, the Government of the Netherlands provided an associate expert to coordinate the Indigenous Fellowship Programme and assist with other indigenous mandates. In 1998, under the restructuring exercise of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, an indigenous project team was established to coordinate indigenous issues, which, at present, has a staff of three.

E. Voluntary Funds and other sources of financing

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

51. Within the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, two funds provide financial support exclusively to indigenous people or for indigenous-related projects and programmes: the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations and the Voluntary Fund for the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People. The United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous

Populations was established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 40/131 of 13 December 1985 to assist representatives of indigenous communities and organizations to participate in the deliberations of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights by providing them with financial assistance funded by means of voluntary contributions from Governments, NGOs and other private or public entities. The General Assembly, in 1995 and 1998, broadened the mandate of the Fund by deciding that the Fund should also be used to assist representatives of indigenous communities and organizations to participate in the deliberations of the Working Group of the Commission on Human Rights on the draft United Nations declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples and to assist representatives of indigenous communities and organizations to participate in the deliberations of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Commission on Human Rights on the permanent forum. The following table shows the amount of travel grants allocated by the Fund from 1995 to 1999 to representatives of indigenous organizations and communities to participate in the three Working Groups, in accordance with the mandate of the Fund. As shown, there is a substantial increase in the number of travel grants recommended since the beginning of the Decade.

United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations grants given between 1995 and 1999

Working Group	*1995*	*1996*	*1997*	*1998*	*1999*
Working Group on Indigenous Populations	53	22	22	50	62
Working Group on the draft declaration	-	4	5	12	14
Working Group on the permanent forum	-	-	-	14	Recommendations on travel grants to attend this Working Group will be adopted by the Board of Trustees in October 1999
Total number of travel grants recommended	53	26	27	76	76 (plus travel grants to be recommended in October 1999 for the Working Group on the permanent forum)

52. The Chairperson of the Board of Trustees, Ms. Tauli-Corpuz, addressed the Commission on Human Rights on 19 April 1999 and appealed to regular and potential donors to contribute to the Fund. In her statement she mentioned that the Fund would need an additional amount of at least US$ 500,000 to meet the increasing requests from indigenous populations. The General Assembly, in various resolutions, has encouraged Governments to support the Decade by contributing to the two Voluntary Funds.

Voluntary Fund for the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People

53. The Voluntary Fund for the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People was established by General Assembly resolutions 48/163, of 18 February 1994, 49/214, of 23 December 1994, and 50/157, of 29 February 1996, to provide financial assistance to indigenous projects and programmes during the Decade. In accordance with paragraph 23 of resolution 50/157, an Advisory Group was established, including indigenous people, to assist the coordinator of the Fund. The Advisory Group is composed of the members of the Board of Trustees of the Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations and the Chairperson-Rapporteur of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations, as well as a United Nations expert, specialized in project management, appointed by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. In its first year of activity in 1997, the Advisory Group recommended and approved 10 grants for projects developed by indigenous organizations and communities. In 1998, the Advisory Group recommended that grants be awarded to 13 projects. The following two examples illustrate the kind of projects financed through the Fund. The first is a project in Kenya, which aims to assist an indigenous organization to build up its organizational structure and train staff in legal land rights and other human rights. The final objective is to strengthen and sustain participation of indigenous Maasai into a meaningful development process. The second project is in Guatemala. The grant contributes to the publication of a children's newspaper, which transmits and strengthens the indigenous Maya identity among the young generation through an illustrative and pictographic approach to the Maya cosmology. In addition to these projects, several workshops and programmes have been financed with money from the Fund: in 1997 the Advisory Group recommended and approved a grant for the organization of a seminar by the Government of Bolivia and a grant for a joint project with UNESCO. In 1998 a workshop on indigenous media was organized in Madrid.

54. At the inter-sessional meeting of members of the Advisory Group, in December 1998, $30,000 was available in the Fund. The Advisory Group recommended that, when allocating available funds and new contributions, priority be given to the Indigenous Fellowship Programme for 1999, the Costa Rica workshop on higher education and the drafting of the United Nations Guide for Indigenous Peoples. In April, the Advisory Group recommended new expenditure priorities as an insufficient amount of new contributions were received, and that new activities, scheduled to be implemented in 1999, within the framework of the Decade, be postponed until further pledges are made and new contributions are paid. The High Commissioner has sent an urgent letter of appeal to donors for additional contributions to the Fund. A chart with contributions received from 1 January 1996 to 2 September 1999 is contained in the annex to the present report.

World Bank

55. The World Bank has referred to the Small Grants Programme which was established in 1983 to provide a way for the World Bank to promote dialogue and dissemination of information about international development in forums and activities taking place outside the World Bank. In 1992, as part of its participation in the International Year of the World's Indigenous People, the Small Grants Programme committed itself to supporting small initiatives on development-related issues proposed by and of interest to indigenous organizations, especially in developing countries. It has since sponsored several activities of this type, many of them proposed and executed by indigenous organizations.

56. The World Bank also maintains an Institutional Development Fund to strengthen the capacity of governmental and non-governmental organizations to plan and manage development programmes. In the Latin American and Caribbean region the resources of the Fund have been used to finance a number of grants to indigenous organizations for the purpose of improving their development planning and implementation capacity. The World Bank expects, in the future, to use the resources of the Fund to improve its outreach to indigenous organizations in other regions.

United Nations Development Programme

57. Many projects supported by UNDP that incorporate indigenous people fall under the category of small grants programmes. Several of these programmes are global in scope. The grants tend to be of smaller amounts ranging from $5,000 to $100,000. These programmes, such as the Global Environment Facility, the Small Grants Programme and the Partners in Development Programme, are aimed to promote consensus-building and participatory decision-making processes. They are designed and implemented in a decentralized manner; and participatory management structures are an integral component of these kinds of initiatives. The Partners in Development Programme has several projects that are specifically focused on indigenous people. Guatemala, Nicaragua and the Philippines have explicitly dedicated their Partners in Development Programme country programmes to the support of indigenous people, while others, such as Bolivia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Nepal and Bhutan provide indirect support. The programme provides direct grants for projects formulated by indigenous peoples' organizations.

United Nations Population Fund

58. UNFPA states that, apart from the regular resources dedicated to indigenous peoples through its country and regional programmes, the organization received $3 million from the United Nations Fund for International Partnerships for the implementation of a project in Bolivia. The project, to run from 1998 to 2002, focuses on bi-literacy among Quechua-speaking women in the departments of Potosia and Chuquisaca, applying reproductive health and gender concepts. UNFPA's budget coding system was recently revised to better reflect how gender concerns and vulnerable population groups are addressed in the Fund's programmes. The tracking of resources and activities to indigenous people/religious or other minorities is made possible by the new classification of project components/activities.

Notes

[1] The notion "intellectual property" is defined in the WIPO Convention to include rights relating to literary, artistic and scientific works; performances of performing artists, sound recordings, and broadcasts; inventions in all fields of human endeavour; scientific discoveries; industrial designs; trademarks, service marks and commercial names and designations; protection against unfair competition; and all other rights resulting from intellectual activity in the industrial, scientific, literary or artistic fields. WIPO's main activities include: facilitating the conclusion of new international treaties and the modernization of national legislation; administration of more than 20 international treaties in the fields of copyright, related rights, patents, industrial designs and marks; providing technical advice and assistance to developing countries as part of an extensive development cooperation programme; the assembly and assimilation of information and advice to a diverse range of parties; and the maintenance of services for facilitating the

obtaining of protection of inventions, marks and industrial designs for which protection in several countries is desired.

[2] The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights received three communications, from the secretariat for the Framework Convention on Climate Change (FCCC), the World Meteorological Organization and the United Nations University, stating that they had no information for inclusion in the present report.

[3] The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (entry into force: 1994) and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, jointly administered by UNEP and WMO, are especially important to indigenous peoples living in the arctic region and affected by global warming. In this respect, it may be useful to mention the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), the Convention to Combat Desertification, the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal, the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (the Bonn Convention), the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance Especially as Waterfowl Habitat (RAMSAR), the Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plant (UPOV) Convention, the International Undertaking on Plant Genetic Resources, the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests and the Agreement on the Trade-related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights, in particular article 27.3 (b) whose provisions affect, sometimes directly, indigenous peoples. Indigenous peoples also have an ongoing interest in emerging international law which is likely to have an impact on their communities such as the review of the above-mentioned TRIPs article or the global treaty currently being negotiated on Persistent Organic Pollutants.

Annex

Voluntary Fund for the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People

Table 1

Contributions received from 1 January 1996 to 4 October 1999[a]

Country	*Amount (in United States dollars)*	*Paid on*
Australia	31 920	14.05.1996
Canada	11 095	23.01.1996
	10 799	04.03.1997
	10 426	09.12.1997
	10 193	29.06.1999
Cyprus	1 485	15.04.1997
	1 000	12.05.1998
Denmark	168 186	07.01.1997
	146 886	12.12.1997
	141 456	24.06.1999
Estonia	1 000	21.09.1998
Fiji	3 000	09.01.1997
France[b]	83 472	26.01.1998
Greece	3 000	09.05.1996
	3 000	03.06.1997
	3 000	14.04.1998
	3 000	15.04.1999
Japan	50 000	30.04.1996
	50 000	31.03.1997
	50 000	19.03.1998
	37 000	29.01.1999
Norway	68 552	30.12.1997
	63 906	23.12.1998
New Zealand	16 680	22.04.1996
	6 779	16.07.1996
	13 232	09.11.1998
	10 531	21.05.1999[c]
	10 867	02.09.1999
Saudi Arabia	10 000	22.07.1999
Sweden	61 633	14.08.1997
Subtotal	**1 082 098**	

NGOs and individuals	*Amount (in United States dollars)*	*Paid on*
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission	7 976	15.05.1996
	7 408	02.07.1997
	5 839	26.06.1998
	6 530	09.07.1999
Alliance of Taiwan Indigenous Culture	300	22.10.1997
Intuition Music, Inc., division of Sequoia Records	1 725	Various contributions from 1996-1999
E. Stamatopoulou	800	05.01.1996
Subtotal	**30 578**	
Total	**1 112 676**	

[a] Based on official receipts available at the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

[b] This contribution is earmarked to pay fees for an expert. In addition, Norway has contributed funding for a consultant for three years during the first part of the Decade and the Netherlands has recently contributed a junior professional officer for two years.

[c] Contribution still not duly registered.

Table 2

Outstanding pledges as at 4 October 1999

Country	*Amount (in United States dollars)*	*Pledged on*
Bolivia	1 000	4-5.11.1998
Tunisia	951	4-5.11.1998
Sweden	38 000	23.06.1999